

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1-58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously Amended) A method for reconstructing a fractured load-bearing anatomical structure, comprising: providing a reconstruction plate, comprising: an attachment member including at least one area defining an aperture formed therein; and a support member extending angularly from the attachment member; and fastening the reconstruction plate in proximity to the anterior aspect of the fractured anatomical structure so as to at least partially reconstruct the fractured anatomical structure; wherein the support member is positioned to provide support to the quadrilateral plate of the reconstructed anatomical structure during loading of the reconstructed anatomical structure.

60. (Original) The invention according to claim 59, wherein the reconstruction plate is comprised of a biocompatible material.

61. (Original) The invention according to claim 59, wherein the reconstruction plate is comprised of a metallic material.

62. (Original) The invention according to claim 59, wherein the reconstruction plate is comprised of materials selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, titanium, cobalt chrome, and combinations thereof.

63. (Original) The invention according to claim 59, further comprising manipulating the attachment member so as to impart a curvature to at least a portion of the attachment member.

64-65. (Canceled)

66. (Original) The invention according to claim 59, wherein the attachment member is fastened to an anterior aspect of the anatomical structure.

67. (Original) The invention according to claim 59, further comprising providing at least one other attachment member extending from the attachment member, the at least one other attachment member including at least one area defining an aperture formed therein.

68. (Original) The invention according to claim 67, wherein the at least one other attachment member extends substantially perpendicularly from the attachment member.

69. (Original) The invention according to claim 67, wherein the at least one other

attachment member is substantially coplanar to the attachment member.

70. (Original) The invention according to claim 67, wherein the at least one other attachment member includes a plurality of areas defining apertures formed therein.

71. (Original) The invention according to claim 67, wherein the at least one other attachment member is fastened to an anterior aspect of the anatomical structure.

72. (Previously Amended) A method for reconstructing a fractured acetabulum, comprising: providing a reconstruction plate, comprising: an attachment member including at least one area defining an aperture formed therein; and a support member connected to said attachment member and extending angularly from the attachment member, said support member having a support surface; and fastening the reconstruction plate in proximity to the anterior aspect of the fractured acetabulum so as to at least partially reconstruct the fractured acetabulum; wherein the support surface is located adjacent to and provides support to the posterior aspect of the reconstructed acetabulum during loading of the reconstructed acetabulum.

73. (Original) The invention according to claim 72, wherein the reconstruction plate is comprised of a biocompatible material.

74. (Original) The invention according to claim 72, wherein the reconstruction plate is comprised of a metallic material.

75. (Original) The invention according to claim 72, wherein the reconstruction plate is comprised of materials selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, titanium, cobalt chrome, and combinations thereof.

76. (Original) The invention according to claim 72, further comprising manipulating the attachment member so as to impart a curvature to at least a portion of the attachment member.

77. (Previously Amended) The invention according to claim 72, wherein the support member is in proximity to a quadrilateral plate of the acetabulum.

78. (Original) The invention according to claim 72, wherein the support member is in proximity to a posterior aspect of an acetabular dome.

79. (Previously Amended) The invention according to claim 72, wherein the attachment member is operable to be fastened to an anterior aspect of the acetabulum with the support member free from apertures operable to receive a fastener member and supports the posterior aspect of the reconstructed acetabulum without being attached thereto.

80. (Original) The invention according to claim 72, further comprising providing at least one other attachment member extending from the attachment member, the at least one

other attachment member including at least one area defining an aperture formed therein.

81. (Original) The invention according to claim 80, wherein the at least one other attachment member extends substantially perpendicularly from the attachment member.

82. (Original) The invention according to claim 80, wherein the at least one other attachment member is substantially coplanar to the attachment member.

83. (Original) The invention according to claim 80, wherein the at least one other attachment member includes a plurality of areas defining apertures formed therein.

84. (Original) The invention according to claim 80, wherein the at least one other attachment member is operable to be fastened to an anterior aspect of the acetabulum.

85-86. (Canceled)

87. (Previously Presented) The invention according to claim 63, including the step of placing the support member adjacent the quadrilateral plate and fastening the attachment member to an anterior aspect of the anatomical structure wherein the support member supports but does not attach to the quadrilateral plate.